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publication

# NEWS!

*The 'Anchorman' gang is back—don't act like you're not impressed 16-17*

SCOTT ILLUSTRATION

**OUT OF THE CLOSET, ONTO THE ICE 10-11**





BY JULIA BORCHERTS FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM » GET MORE EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYETCHICAGO.COM

# EAT

## CUBAN HOLIDAY MENU Nacional 27

325 W. Huron St. 312-664-2727

Treat your palate to a four-course island-style prix-fixe menu with wine pairings featuring slow-roasted suckling pig Cubano or spice-rubbed jumbo prawns served with sides and DeLoach pinot noir, plus a tapas sampler, hearts of palm salad and a dessert duo. 5:30-9:30 p.m. \$45.

## FREE PASTA TASTINGS Pasta Puttana

1407 W. Grand Ave.  
773-439-9623

Owner Jessica Volpe offers complimentary samples of her sweet and savory seasonal creations—also available for take-home purchase—including hand-rolled Golden Egg Garganelli (\$12) and Chestnut Panzerotti filled with roasted, creamed chestnuts, mascarpone cheese and chestnut honey (\$1.25 per piece). 4-8 p.m. No cover.

# DRINK

## 12 BEERS OF CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Kirkwood** 2934 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-770-0700

This bash features passed appetizers and Advent calendar-style place mats for servings of seasonal spirits from 12 craft breweries including **Port Brewing Santa's Little Helper**, Shiner Holiday Cheer, J.K.'s Cuvee Winterruption hard cider, St. Bernardus Christmas Ale and New Holland Cabin Fever. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Tickets: [kirkwoodbar.com](http://kirkwoodbar.com)



# DO

## BURLY The Burlington

3425 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-384-3243

You don't need to be burly to attend the holiday edition of this monthly bash for LGBT and bearded folks and their friends which features beats by guest DJs Butch Sassidy and Josie Bush, \$5 hot toddies and a book release party for the essay anthology, "Boys." Festive holidaywear encouraged. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover.



## THE HIDEOUT OFFICE HOLIDAY PARTY Hideout

1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433

Join the folks who bring you regular entertainment—Schadenfreude, Funny Ha-Ha, Shame That Tune and The Interview Show—for seasonal musical and sketch comedy, humorous stories, a musical performance by Chicago rapper Psalm One and a sketch featuring real-life aldermen Scott Waguespack (32nd) and Bob Fioretti (2nd) with Schadenfreude's fictional character, Ald. Ed Bus. A cash bar party follows. 7-8 p.m. \$5.



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### REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

See our picks for the best of 2013 in dining and nightlife at [redeyechicago.com/bestofdining](http://redeyechicago.com/bestofdining).

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# trending in Chicago

We know what you Googled this year!

By Mick Swasko | REDEYE

Looks like we're still a little unclear on twerking. "What is twerking" and "how to twerk" were the year's top "what is" and "how to" searches in Chicago, according to Tuesday's release of Google Zeitgeist, the search engine's annual breakdown of popular search trends. Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse won out as the most-searched local restaurant, with appearances by Shaw's Crab House, Girl & the Goat and Graham Elliot. Here is a further breakdown. [MSWASKO@TRIBUNE.COM](mailto:MSWASKO@TRIBUNE.COM) | [@SWASKO](https://twitter.com/SWASKO)





# Men can play dating games too



**John Hickey**

redeye@tribune.com  
@johnmyhickey

When it comes to dating, women have the upper hand in the mind games department. That's not to say we're all cavemen who think only in singular emotions, like "food" or "sex" or "foodsex." We do have some game. Here are a few tried and true mental techniques I've observed among my fellow men.

## The 'no-game' game

My best friend gets more women with "Hey, I don't have some cheesy pickup line to lay on you; I just want to tell you I think you're beautiful" than every other guy I know combined. And he does it all while wearing jeans and a T-shirt. Classic undersell. Women fall all over themselves because they think he's being "aw-shucks" honest. He knows exactly what he's doing, and it makes the rest of us sick. Sick with respect.

## The Olympic hopeful

You know who's a lot more fun than the hard to standing in the middle of the bar, having guy after guy order her a drink? The friend of the 10 who's seen it all before and rolls her eyes at every advance. Or even better: the friend of THAT friend. That's who the true male athletes bring their A-game for: the silver or bronze medals. Because those girls not-so-secretly hate the attention their gold-medal girlfriend is getting. As men, we just want something shiny we can take home and show our friends.

## The preoccupied man

I have a Big Apple brother who loves to lone wolf it to a Midtown dive bar and sit solo with a forlorn and distraught look on his face. Ladies don't see a 6-foot-5 bearded behemoth but an abandoned puppy left alone at the shelter. When they approach him with "What's wrong?" he says he can't even begin to explain it and just wants someone to have a drink with. Their sympathy and their curiosity—plus his perfect elixir of vulnerability and mystery—equals game, set and match.

## The long game

"Oh, you have a boyfriend? Live in Ohio but are planning on moving to the Chi this summer? Let's exchange numbers anyway. I'll keep a casual distance, only texting you random nonsense every other weekend. Maybe when you're back in town, a big group of us can all go out? Yeah, bring the boyfriend. You'll end up leaving him for me anyway since I'm way more comfortable in this city than he is."

## The project

If the popularity of Pinterest and Etsy are any indication, women love a hands-on project. The key is not to come across as too much of a mess, but just enough that she thinks the perfect combination of support and pressure will transform you into Prince Charming. For example, keep a clean apartment but don't have any idea how to cook for yourself. (Wait, actually that's my game.) In your heart you know she never will fix you, and after too long she'll figure it out for herself. Then she'll leave you for a guy who works in her company's design department.

JOHN HICKEY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

“Their sympathy and their curiosity—plus his perfect elixir of vulnerability and mystery—equals game, set and match.”



## INSTAGRAM PHOTO STORIES

# WORKING IN CHICAGO

NEW THEME!

How much of your life would you say you spend working or at work? A lot of it, right? Right.

Everyday stories and images from this place, where the majority of our time is spent, inspire us—and we want to hear about it. So we've started a new Instagram-based photo project, and it's all about you.

**What:** 312Works, an Instagram storytelling project about the lives of Chicago workers

**Where:** Instagram! Find us at @redychicago. Also, check the mini-site, where we post and feature submissions: 312works.tumblr.com.

**How to get involved:** Every two weeks, we will provide a new hashtag prompt for you, focused on one aspect of "working." Use it to tell a story on Instagram, using both a photo and a caption. Other than that? No rules—get creative!

We'll announce the new theme every other Tuesday as well as feature the best of the crop from the last. Questions? Tweet us at @redychicago or visit the 312Works Tumblr. Can't wait to see what you come up with!

JESSICA GALLIART, REDEYE SOCIAL MEDIA LADY

## THE NEW THEME IS:

# CLEANLINESS

HASHTAG #312CLEAN



1. @jessicagalliart: This is the first thing you see when walking into the RedEye office. It is exceptionally clean and not very indicative of the rest of the office.

2. @brithewebguy: Trib Tower getting a wash—on a 20-degree day.

3. @kbernot: Aggressive office kitchen reminders.

Contrary to popular belief, there are no moids here.

Please dump the contents of the sink strainer into the garbage when you are done.



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chicago



A Safe Passage sign hangs near the intersection of Fullerton and Long avenues, where a 15-year-old girl was beaten and sexually assaulted Tuesday morning. **ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE**

## Girl assaulted near 'Safe' route

### Chicago Tribune

A 15-year-old girl was in critical condition Tuesday night after she was found beaten, unconscious and sexually assaulted that morning in the backyard of a home near a Chicago Public Schools Safe Passage route on the Northwest Side, officials said.

The girl was found at 8:10 a.m. in the 2400 block of North Long Avenue, said Officer Janel Sedevic, a Chicago Police Department spokeswoman. The girl, who officials say was on her way to school at the time of the attack, was taken to Mount Sinai Hospital with head injuries. She was initially in serious condition, but worsened late Tuesday, police said.

As of Tuesday night, no one was in custody and police were asking for the public's help to find the attacker. Police were unable to garner much information from the girl because of the extent of her injuries.

In a community alert issued Tuesday evening, police said the girl was going south on the 2400 block of North Long Avenue around 6 a.m. when she was struck in the head and dragged into the rear yard of a home and sexually assaulted.

The girl attended a charter high school outside of the neighborhood and was apparently walking to a bus stop on the corner of Long Avenue and Fullerton Avenue when the attack happened, a police source said.

The site where the girl was found is less than half a block from one of Chicago Public Schools' Safe Passage routes, patrolled areas that were set up for the current school year to help students who have longer walks in the wake of dozens of elementary school closures.

Police are asking anyone with information to call Area North detectives at 312-744-8261. **WGN-TV CONTRIBUTED.**

### EXPRESS LINES

» CTA, Metra and Pace riders who save hundreds of dollars a year by using pre-tax income to pay their fares could see big cuts in how much money they can set aside for commuting in 2014, transit officials said Tuesday.

» A woman visiting from Texas died after she slipped into the Chicago River just east of the Michigan Avenue bridge Tuesday morning, police said. **TRIBUNE**





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U.S. Sen. Rand Paul (third from right) talks to reporters after a vote Tuesday on Capitol Hill. Paul was among those who tried to stop the budget measure. GETTY IMAGES

# U.S. budget clears crucial Senate vote

**WASHINGTON** A two-year U.S. budget deal on Tuesday cleared a Senate procedural vote that all but assured its passage by a simple majority later this week in the Democratic-controlled chamber.

The Senate voted 67-33 to limit debate on the measure, exceeding the required 60 votes and overcoming the opposition of conservative Republicans who objected to increased near-term government spending.

Twelve Republicans joined 53 Democrats and two independents in supporting the measure, which aims to minimize the threat of another government shutdown through Oct. 1, 2015. It won passage in the House of Representatives by an overwhelming margin last week.

A 16-day partial government shutdown in October left many Republicans skittish about withholding their support for legislation to keep agencies operating.

The Senate, where Democrats have a 55-45 majority, is expected to vote on final passage of the budget measure as early as Wednesday.

Several conservative Republican senators, including Tea Party supporters Rand Paul and Ted Cruz, tried to stop the measure and keep automatic "sequester" spending cuts in place. The budget deal eases some of the sequester cuts by allowing budgets for government agencies and discretionary programs to rise by \$63 billion over two years in exchange for future savings elsewhere.

But a mix of moderate and conservative Republican senators voted to proceed to an up-or-down vote on the deal, which was negotiated by Democratic Sen. Patty Murray and Republican Rep. Paul Ryan.

The margin of victory is expected to be close on the final vote, however.

The measure sets spending levels at just over \$1 trillion for two fiscal years.

Assuming it wins final passage and is signed by President Obama, Congress must then pass a spending measure that allocates funds by Jan. 15, when current government spending authority expires.

## 6 U.S. soldiers killed in helicopter crash

Six U.S. soldiers were killed in a helicopter crash in southern Afghanistan on Tuesday, NATO said. One person survived the crash but suffered injuries. "Initial reporting indicates there was no enemy activity in the area at the time," a NATO statement said.

## Report: More than 100 killed in Syria

An international humanitarian group said Monday that more than 100 people have been killed in recent government airstrikes on rebel-held areas of the Syrian city of Aleppo, part of an apparent escalation by both sides ahead of peace talks scheduled for next month.

## Groups exempt from health care mandate

A U.S. judge has ruled that four organizations—two schools and two health care organizations—with ties to the Roman Catholic church are exempt from a provision of the Affordable Care Act that requires them to provide coverage for contraceptive services and counseling to their employees.

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# sports

## 'I just kept it hidden'

Locker rooms are behind the LGBT acceptance curve

By Matt Lindner | FOR REDEYE

Anthony Alfano had a secret, and he wasn't about to tell the DePaul hockey teammates with whom he shared a locker room.

"I wasn't out to [my teammates]," the 23-year-old Uptown resident said. "It was that constant everyone talking about my girlfriend this or I'm gonna go meet up with some girls, get a girl at a bar."



Alfano

America has trended toward acceptance when it comes to the LGBT community in recent years. In Illinois,

lawmakers recently approved gay marriage. But Alfano said the locker room lags behind.

Alfano, now a Chicago Gay Hockey Association board member, said that while his teammates would regularly talk about female conquests, he didn't dare speak up about his own personal life.

"I just didn't feel comfortable about talking about who I was, so I just kept it hidden," he said. "That wasn't right for myself and it also wasn't right for the team. If I can't be open with my teammates and they can't trust me in the locker room, they can't trust me on the ice and vice versa."

So he made a decision: Give up his favorite sport so he could be himself.

So what's the key to turning things around? Making sure kids know that who they are off the ice doesn't matter on it, Alfano said.

Alfano said it would help if an active NHL player took the first step.

Right now, former Fire midfielder Robbie Rogers is arguably the most prominent openly gay athlete on an active U.S. roster.

Michael Ko, a 39-year-old Bucktown resident and original CGHA member, thinks it hasn't happened yet because of a perceived impact on a team's brand.

That said, he is optimistic that the day is coming when a gay young athlete has an out-and-proud professional role model in one of the big four sports.

"We've come a long way right now," Ko said. "I think it's getting close."

# Open ice

Chicago Gay Hockey Association's goal: inclusion—with solid checks thrown in

By Matt Lindner | FOR REDEYE

As the Blackhawks were finishing up a recent win, some of Chicago's other hockey role models quietly practiced in a Lincolnwood industrial park on a sheet of ice roughly half the size of the one at the United Center.

The familiar whir of skate blades cutting through the ice and the popping of rubber pucks smacking against wooden sticks echoed through the cavernous building as the 65-plus member Chicago Gay Hockey Association orchestrated another practice.

It sounds, well, anything but relaxing. But for Matt Berger, a 35-year-old Lombard resident who started playing hockey only in May, the organized chaos felt like something else: a reprieve.

"The coolest thing for me is because there's so much going on on the ice, all you can think about is hockey," he said. "All the stress from your day, all the other stuff that's going on, you don't have time to think about it. It's incredibly relaxing."

Whir, pop.

On this night, members of the newly formed instructional squad—introduced within the past few



weeks to keep up with demand—congregated to run drills and develop chemistry. Plays were drawn up, instructions barked out, plays—and mistakes—were made.

For a novice such as Berger, it was a welcome chance to hone his craft.

"To be able to play with other people about the same skill level but to also have really good people give you tips, it's hugely helpful," he said. "These guys go out of their way to make sure we're learning the right stuff."



Justin O'Rourke

### GROWING AND GROWING ...

The Chicago Gay Hockey Association started 11 years ago with about a dozen members playing on a single team. Now the group has more than 60 players across several teams, with players assigned based on skill level. Members pay a \$20 annual fee.





CGHA player Tony Tiet  
PHOTOS BY LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

Chicago is the gay center of the Midwest. It's ridiculous that we're not bigger than we are already."

—Brian Hull, 30-year-old Lakeview resident and CGHA player

Anthony Alfano, a CGHA board member and former college player at DePaul, said the not-for-profit is as much about effecting change as it is about hockey.

"There's a culture in most sports and hockey as well that most LGBT athletes don't feel comfortable growing up in the locker room

and outside of the locker room," the 23-year-old Uptown resident said. "We try to provide that safe space for people to play a sport they love and be themselves as well."

Whir, pop.

"It's a comfort level because there's that level of acceptance," Berger added. "It gives



### MAKE THE YULETIDE GAY

You've heard their rendition of "All I Want For Christmas Is You," but the Chicago Gay Hockey Association's talents don't end there. From "Deck the Halls" to "Silent Night," this crew could fill a hilarious, hard-hitting holiday album. To see what we mean, visit [redeyechicago.com](http://redeyechicago.com).

you the strength to be able to keep going."

The group says there's only one major difference between their locker room and others.

"Our locker room's a little more fun than everyone else," said Brian Hull, a 30-year-old Lakeview resident and league board member.

The CGHA has teams in a number of local city leagues. Teams from the CGHA also will travel beyond the Chicago area three to five times per year for tournaments.

The league's expansion plans sound ambitious. The board sees places like New York and Toronto and wonders why there are gay leagues there and not in Chicago, a town that prides itself on welcoming the LGBT community with open arms.

"Chicago is the gay center of the Midwest," Hull said. "It's ridiculous that we're not bigger than we are already."

Part of the problem, said Michael Ko, is hockey is already popular in Chicago.

"You don't have to come to one place," the 39-year-old Bucktown resident said. "If you're an hour away, you're not going to drive to join a team."

The solution, Alfano said, is as simple as the group speaking up.

"We have gone to a lot of organizations in the city and the surrounding suburbs to let them know that our organization does exist," Alfano said.

Ko, one of the CGHA's original members, estimates that about one-fourth of its players are straight.

"I do see us being an entire Chicago LGBT-friendly league, of teams that are playing against each other and anyone can join regardless of your sexual identity," Alfano said. "The mission of our organization is to provide a safe space for people who want to play hockey regardless of your gender identity or sexual orientation."

MATT LINDNER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



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fiveonfive

# SWARTZY

We admire Tracy Swartz's dedication to her goals. Quick note to Joakim Noah: Keep your wits about you, buddy.



**Tracy Swartz**  
@tracyswartz  
RedEye  
CTA reporter



**Ernest Wilkins**  
@ernestwilkins  
Chicago's  
wingman



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|   |   |   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | RedEye's Tracy Swartz now has visited all 32 NFL stadiums. What should she do next? | See answer No. 2.   | All 29 NASCAR tracks? All college football stadiums with more than 60,000 seats? Cocaine? | Sit down for a while. Put her feet up.                     | Jon Gruden would have a pun time with her on "Monday Night Football."                           | Cross Jacksonville off her list because that's not an NFL team.                               |
| 2 | Alshon Jeffery is to spectacular catches as ...                                     | ... Joakim Noah is to being a spectacular catch.                                    | ... I was to wearing FUBU jerseys in '98. Makes it look GOOD.                             | ... Kim Kardashian is to bad taste.                        | ... the Cubs are to spectacular collapses.  | ... Josh McCown and Jay Cutler are to being lucky they have him on the team.                  |
| 3 | What should the Fire call their new dome on the North Side?                         | The roof is on Fire.  | The Stoichkov Center. Great way to honor a Fire hero.                                     | The Thunderdome. Duh. They should get Tina Turner, too.    | Neither the fire pit nor the fire place are as hot as the name Swartzcenter (wink wink, Tracy). | Since it's going to be inflatable like the Metrodome or Silverdome, how about the 1984 Dome?  |
| 4 | Who should be the White Sox's new closer?   | Gordon Beckham. Wait, you said nude clotheser, right?                               | Soxman. Dude has a pretty loose screwball already.  | I don't think Bobby Jenks is doing anything these days.    | "Dark Knight Rises music plays" I'm the hero Soxtham needs.                                     | They should use a loser by committee. Oh, you said "closer"? I have no idea.                  |
| 5 | Crying on an NFL sideline: cool or uncool?  | Uncool. Unless it's because the Packers are losing. They have a lot of brats there. | Very cool. I'm crying right now!  | Cool as long as your tears aren't super weird and faucety. | Cool, as long as they were watching the end of "It's A Wonderful Life."                         | Totally cool! Just don't do it in the postgame press conference T.O.-style (Google it, kids). |

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# These Bears are cool as ice(bergs)



**Ben Johnson**

» redeyesports@tribune.com  
» @ttsbenjo

On the surface, the Bears are having what seems to be another in an unending series of very Bearsy seasons.

The team is on top of the NFC North with an 8-6 record by a paper-slim margin with two games to go. This could be anywhere between an 8-8 season in which a depleted roster fought

bravely but narrowly missed the playoffs, or a valiant 10-6 run with a brutally cold home playoff victory that eventually, probably in playoff Round 2, ends somewhere else.

So far, so Bears. But is it me, or are the Bears different now?

Football is an odd sport. The ball bounces around all crazy, and everybody on the field at any given time is extremely large and strong and fast, and an accepted defining aspect of the game is mashing into other people in a way that can sometimes cause severe injury.

In essence, a football game is a collision of two icebergs, and we're watching from above the water and rooting for one to "sink" the other. But we see only the tips. Under the surface is where a majority of the mass is. And this is where the Bears are different.

Doesn't this year feel different? Isn't this a more hopeful-than-usual version of tenuously holding onto the division crown at 8-6?

The Bears have an NFL offense now, with



Jay Cutler (right) and Eben Britton  
CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE

two wide receivers in it and an offensive line and everything. When Jay Cutler gets hurt, that offense doesn't turn, Cinderella-like, back into a rotten potato. The defense is decimated by injuries but gallantly hovering around league average while populated with youngsters getting valuable reps in.

This isn't one of those 8-6 Bears teams that perpetually feels like 5-9\* with an (\*plus the miraculous Devin Hester) asterisk attached. This is "wait till next year" and meaning it, a typical Bears "yeah, but" that ends in "next year they probably won't have five defensive starters on injured reserve" rather than "they can't complete a pass longer than 4 yards without Cutler getting maimed."

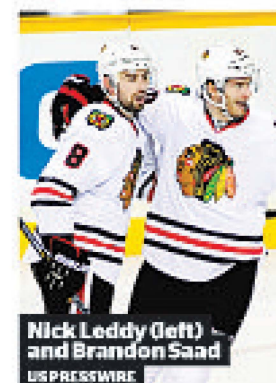
Sure, the results have been familiar. The results are the same, actually. And they're still the Bears. But these aren't the same old Bears. You just have to look under the surface. They're bigger than 8-6.

BEN JOHNSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

## THE DIGIT 20 YEARS

That's how long it had been since Northern Illinois had a player named to the Associated Press' All-America first team. Huskies running back LaShon Johnson earned the honor in 1993, and quarterback Jordan Lynch followed suit this year.

"That's awesome, just the respect people have for me around the country," Lynch said.



Nick Leddy (left) and Brandon Saad  
UPRESSWIRE

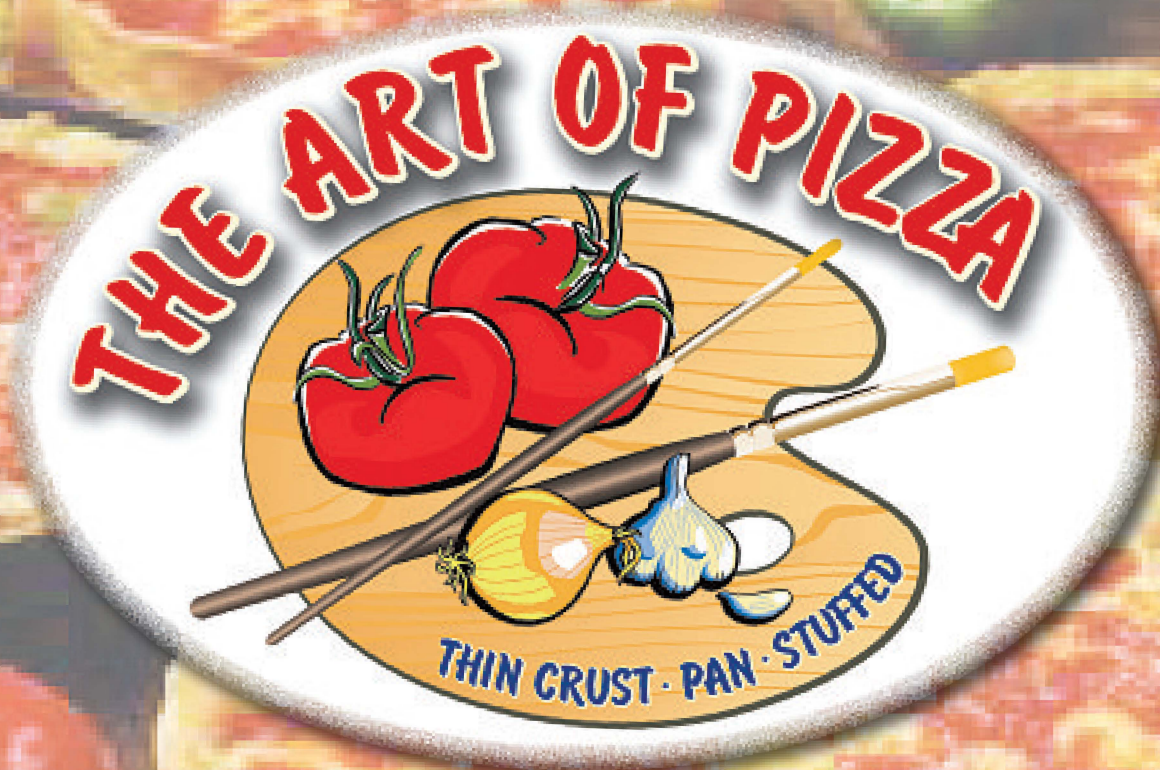
## Blackhawks 3, Nashville 1

Two goals in the first period helped lift Chicago to its fifth win in the past six contests. Duncan Keith scored 89 seconds into the game and Patrick Kane broke a 1-1 tie later in the first. Nick Leddy added the final goal in the game in the second period. Antti Laaanta blocked 27 of 28 shots on the night.

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# movies

David Koechner (left), Paul Rudd, Will Ferrell and Steve Carell in "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues"

## !!!! Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues PG-13



FAST PAISED

**Matt Pais**

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@mattpais

Though his glorious mustache causes him to resemble a man, Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell) is, in reality, the ultimate giant baby—a random collision of unchecked impulses and defiant tantrums.

Whoever hires the fired anchorman to host the SeaWorld dolphin show after wife Veronica Corningstone (Christina Applegate) chooses her promotion over her husband must have known the guy soon would be drunkenly asking the two female trainers to kiss in front of the crowd. "I would eat dolphins if it was legal!" he shouts. Of course he does, and of course he would. Ron lives on a higher, louder plane, where compromise and tact are for chumps.

In "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues," Ferrell's veteran newsman (who justified his own legend in the endlessly quotable 2004 film) hasn't lost a shred of his unparalleled delivery. Not everything that comes out of Burgundy's mouth is a winner, but Ferrell's 150 percent performance constantly turns stupid into gold. This time he's recruited to join the first-ever 24-hour news network, prompting a Muppets-style reunion with his old colleagues: Sports reporter Champ Kind (David Koechner) runs a restaurant where he serves fried bats as chicken; Brian Fantana (Paul Rudd) would creep out the cats he photographs if they understood him; and moronic weather man Brick Tamland (Steve Carell) delivers the kind of eulogy that could only come from a man who loves lamp.

Too often the script by Ferrell and director/co-writer Adam McKay, which briefly and tentatively sends up the modern 24-hour news machine, forgets about characters and plotlines (maybe because a commitment to story dampened the original's pace and energy). James Marsden appears as Ron's new rival, but too easily accepts defeat.

Ron's rocky relationship with his boss, Linda Jackson (Meagan Good), leads to the film's worst scene, in which Ron awkwardly mimics African-American stereotypes in front of Linda and her family, who are black. Neither Good nor Applegate (nor Rudd) gets much to work with, and a running gag involving

Veronica's new man (Greg Kinnear) goes on far too long.

Also, louder isn't always funnier, as evidenced by Brick's defense of the first woman he's ever met who's his intellectual match (Kristen Wiig).

But there's nothing like laughing your

face off, and even at nearly two full hours "Anchorman 2" gets the giddy, giggly, check-pressuring job done. It's better not to spoil too many jokes. Just prepare to learn how badly Ron needs his eyesight and see that a pop-culture figure you never thought was funny ... still isn't funny.





# MILK WAS A BAD CHOICE

Ron Burgundy: Renaissance man?

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

On Wednesday, nearly 10 years after the release of "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy," America's premier mustachioed, sexist TV news anchor is back. Actually, scratch that—Ron Burgundy's been back for months promoting "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues." Here are five of the strangest places Will Ferrell has popped up in character. [DMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM](mailto:DMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM) | @REDEYEDANA

March 28, 2012

## Appearance on 'Conan'

It's a bird! It's a man! It's a jazz flute? Ron whistles his way on-stage to announce "Anchorman 2." It's nearly two years until the film would see the light of day, but you can't get excited about these things too soon.

October 2013

## Dodge Durango ads

Normally a celebrity would film one, maybe two versions of a TV spot to promote a product. Ron Burgundy made 70 of them for the Dodge Durango. Did it pay off? You know it—Forbes reported that Durango sales went up 59 percent in October compared with a year earlier.

November 2013

## Bismarck, N.D., anchor gig

After getting far more than enough of the weather in mild San Diego, Ron co-anchored the Nov. 30 evening news on CBS affiliate KXMB in North Dakota. The L.A. Times reports that the most exciting local developments that night included a trash fire in the parking lot of a local Sam's Club and holiday shopping updates from local merchants. At

Sam's Club, you probably could shop for burned trash.

December 2013

## Emerson College renames a school after him

The Boston Institute of higher education became the Ron Burgundy School of Communications—for one day. Dec. 4, 2013, probably will go down as one of the most important days of his life, but, as Ferrell said, "much to Ron's chagrin, he thought [the change] was lifetime." "I'm sitting next to the president of the college, and the dean of the school of journalism, and for 45 minutes they weren't asked one single question. And there were something like 90 media requests, all asking Ron Burgundy questions."

December 2013  
**Announcer at Canadian Olympic trials for curling**  
Canadians take their curling nearly as seriously as their hockey, so it's a pretty big honor to be asked to work the curling circuit. Ron learned the newest broadcast technology (stretchy arrows) and tossed a stone of his own. Oh, and there was a kilt involved.



"Anchorman 2's" Baxter and Adam McKay

# Laugh it up, buddy

'Anchorman 2' director/co-writer wants to make you giggle

By Matt Pais | REDEYE

During his time at Chicago's iO Theater in the early '90s, "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues" director/co-writer Adam McKay learned the value of avoiding the first joke that comes to mind, and doing even stupid characters creatively. That philosophy has so informed the filmmaker's career ("The Other Guys," "Step Brothers") that he constantly shouts out improvised and tweaked lines while shooting, to the point that both "Anchorman" films have entire movies' worth of alternate jokes.

At the Langham Hotel, McKay, 45, who co-founded Funny or Die with Will Ferrell and says his movies feature guys who aren't necessarily idiots, but boast unearned confidence, talked about one-liners that bombed, directing Harrison Ford and Kanye West (who have small parts in "Anchorman 2") and the on-screen pairing he sees as "the ultimate comic challenge."

In terms of the stream of consciousness on set, can you think of something you've thrown out that totally bombed? Or something that once it was out of your mouth, you wished you had it back?

Oh my God. Hundreds and hundreds of times, yeah. When you're improvising, your best days you're shooting 50 percent. And on normal days you're shooting 35 percent. I usually just look at whatever I'm throwing out as initiation. Like it's a chance to get it going. I'll sometimes just say a line and go, "This sucks, but here's this," and then it'll allow the actors to respond.

Can you think of an example of one of those dumb beginnings?

Oh my God, I'm sure. I'm just thinking of the beginning of the movie; I could almost look at any

scene and think of a bad one. For Drake complimenting Veronica Corningstone's ass, I'm sure I threw out about five or six bad ones for that. I think I had Ferrell say, "When you've got an ass like a Porsche, people are going to want to take it for a spin." Which is not particularly bad, but it's just bland. I think I threw that out as a way to get the conversation going. A bunch of bad ones on that. "When you have an ass like a Barcalounger, people are going to want to use the footrest."

The weirdness of barking orders to Han Solo aside, who is harder to stand up to: Harrison Ford or Kanye West?

[Laughs.] Oh, that's a great question. I think Kanye West was a little tougher. Kanye West was great, though. He was definitely game. He's actually funny. He came up with some funny lines, too. But a couple times I did throw out lines and he'd go, "Nah, I don't like that."

I have to compliment you on working with people who don't have the reputation of being funny. What can we expect in your next film when you show us how hilarious Daniel Day-Lewis is?

[Laughs.] He'd be the ultimate, wouldn't he? I bet you he's funny, too. I've never met him, but he probably is. You can't be that good an actor without a sense of humor. Who would be the ultimate one? If I could get Robert Duvall—a funny movie with Robert Duvall. He'd be about the toughest one.

A buddy comedy with him and Daniel Day-Lewis. Yeah. Or with Orrin Hatch. A buddy comedy with Robert Duvall and Orrin Hatch would be the ultimate comic challenge.

MATT PAIS IS REDEYE'S MOVIES AND MUSIC GUY.



REUTERS





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music

# Time Travelers

Playing punk before there was punk, Death are finally having their moment

## CHI-TUNES

**Andy Downing**

» metromix@tribune.com

Sometimes Death isn't really the end.

In the early '70s, Detroit brothers David, Bobby and

Dannis Hackney picked up some instruments and started bashing out scrappy, high-octane rock tunes under the name Death, recording a handful of tracks before breaking up unceremoniously in 1977. When David, who functioned as the band's primary songwriter, died of lung cancer in 2000, it appeared to put a final period on things.

Then, beginning in 2008, something interesting happened. "Politicians in My Eyes," a single the band self-released in 1974, started to make the rounds among influential tastemakers like Questlove, and Bobby's sons, Julian, Urian and Bobby Jr., launched a Death cover band called Rough Francis. A New York Times profile followed as well as a record deal with Drag City. In 2013, the brothers' story was beautifully told in the documentary "A Band Called

## SEE DEATH LIVE

8:30 p.m. Dec. 31 at Reggie's Rock Club. \$20-\$25.

Death," which screens for free at 7 p.m. Friday at Reggie's Music Joint.

In some ways, 2014 is shaping up to be an even bigger year for the trio (family friend Bobbie Duncan stepped in for the late David Hackney). The group just put the finishing touches on a new album, expected out next year, and they recently hit the road for a tour that stops at Reggie's Rock Club on New Year's Eve.

Reached at home in Vermont, Bobby and Dannis Hackney, now in their 50s, discussed the events that fueled Death's earliest songs, David's eerie premonition of success and the reasons behind their music's longevity.

**You first picked up instruments after watching the Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show," but you said you didn't get serious about the band until the late '60s. What changed?**

**Bobby Hackney:** 1968 was the real year we turned into music, and maybe it was just

“1968 was the real year we turned into music, and maybe it was just the healing we needed at the time. We had the Vietnam War and leaders getting assassinated. ... We saw music as an escape, and like everybody else we wanted to escape from all the turmoil that was going on in America.”

—Bobby Hackney, Death member on what got the trio serious about the band

Bobby Hackney performing in 2010 in New York

GETTY IMAGES FILE

Dannis Hackney





David (from left), Bobby and Dannis Hackney

the healing we needed at the time. We had the Vietnam War and leaders getting assassinated, like Bobby Kennedy and President Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. We saw music as an escape, and like everybody else we wanted to escape from all the turmoil that was going on in America.

**People have described your music as punk before punk existed. Did you realize at the time you were on to something different?**

**Dannis Hackney:** We just thought we were playing good music. We didn't think of it as punk music because those were the early days, and if you went around calling people punks, you got a bloody nose, man. Punk hadn't been coined yet.

**BH:** We always called it hard-driving rock 'n' roll.

**DH:** The one thing we all knew unequivocally was there was no other black band in Detroit playing that kind of music [laughs].

**In the film, you talk about Detroit being this thriving metropolis when you were children. What was your reaction when the city filed for bankruptcy?**

**DH:** It makes us sad, man. It was a whole

different Detroit when we grew up. It was Detroit Rock City. It was Motown. It was a fast-moving, fast-paced city. To see it now ... is really hard for us. It's not the Detroit we grew up with.

**What's it been like experiencing this Death renaissance without David?**

**DH:** I have been able to take it in because of the conversations me and David had before he left. He used to tell us things like, "This music is not going to make it till I'm gone," and, "You guys are going to realize this dream, but I won't be there because I don't really want to go through the money trip," which is what he used to call it. I remember [talking to] David [at my wedding] in [September] 2000 and ... he looked at me and said, "Man, I'm going to make sure Bob has the [Death] master tapes and everything, because after this you won't see me anymore." Then one month after I got married, David died.

**Why do you think the music has endured?**

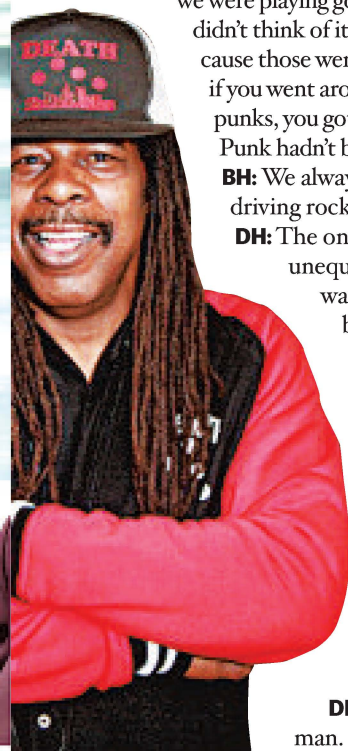
**DH:** People are saying it was ahead of its time, and we always knew David was ahead of his time. David was always telling us we were doing something no one else was doing. On the east side of Detroit in the black community, no one tuned in to rock 'n' roll, so we just thought we were an abnormal thing in our own neighborhood. We never thought we were an abnormal thing in all of music.

**BH:** We used to be the activity in the neighborhood, like, "Let's go check out those crazy Hackneys!"

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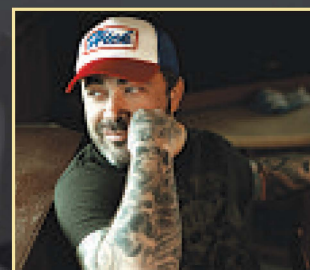
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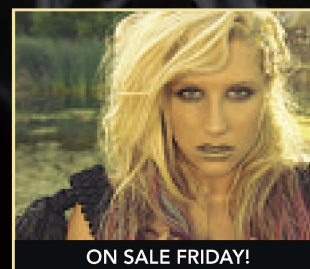
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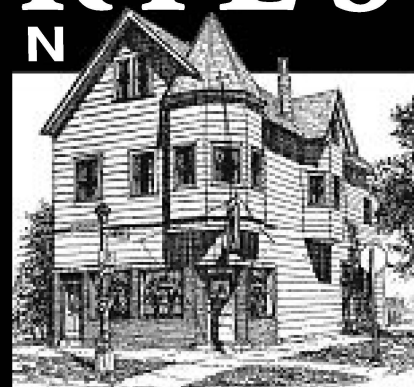
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eat&drink

# HOLIDAY PARTIES

PARTY HARD AT MATZO BASH, ROCK AND ROLL CHRISTMAS AND MORE

By **Samantha Nelson** | FOR REDEYE

You don't have to wait until New Year's Eve for the next big party—and you don't have to stop then either. Whether you love holiday music, need to show off your most hideous sweater or didn't get enough celebrating in during Hanukkah, these seven bashes will help you keep the holiday spirit going until January.

## '80s-Themed Holiday Party at Quenchers Saloon

2401 N. Western Ave.  
773-276-9730

**When:** Thursday, Dec. 19  
► Don some '80s garb or an ugly sweater and rock out to tunes from cover band Counterfeit II. The Bucktown bar will also be devoting its 24 taps to breweries that were established in the '80s, including Great Lakes, Goose Island and Summit. Expect a mix of Christmas beers and limited releases. 7 p.m. No cover.



## Matzo Bash at Castle

632 N. Dearborn St. 312-266-1944

**When:** Tuesday, Dec. 24  
► This annual bash, which benefits several Jewish charities, has gotten so big that last year it was split between two bars. This year, 2,000 expected revelers will all be able to celebrate together in this massive River North club, where DJs will be spinning hits and mashups on five floors. Tickets include two hours of cocktails and appetizers. 8 p.m.-4 a.m. \$20. Tickets: [matzobash.com](http://matzobash.com).

## Ugly Sweater Party at Porkchop

941 W. Randolph St.  
312-733-6333

**When:** Friday, Dec. 20  
► The West Loop barbecue joint doles out shot glasses, flasks and shirts as prizes for the most hideous holiday apparel. If your sweater isn't keeping you toasty enough, warm up with a hot toddy, Irish coffee or apple brandy-spiked cider. 8 p.m. No cover.

## Ugly Sweater Party at Rokit Bar & Grill

22 W. Hubbard St. 312-645-6000

**When:** Friday, Dec. 20  
► Rock your most ridiculous outerwear and you'll score 20 percent off all food, including the holiday ham TV dinner (\$21) featuring bourbon- and brown sugar-glazed ham, mashed potatoes, mac 'n' cheese, broccoli, corn, sweet potato fries and sugar cookies. The River North bar's bash also offers live music from cover band Rendition and \$6 Apple Jameson and Deschutes Jubelale. 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

## Givers vs. Livers at Estate Ultra Bar

1177 N. Elston Ave. 312-582-4777

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 21  
► Bring a toy or food donation

and you'll get \$5 off the \$40 charge for a drink package that includes cocktails from Svedka, Bacardi and Captain Morgan. The River West bar is also waiving its normal dress code and encouraging partiers to come in their pajamas, so get cozy and hang out with Santa and elves doling out shots from a Christmas tree made of green Jameson bottles. Proceeds benefit Little Elves of Love, which brings holiday cheer to kids in Chicago hospitals. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover.

## Rock and Roll Christmas at Lottie's Pub

1925 W. Cortland St.  
773-489-0738

**When:** Wednesday, Dec. 25  
► The Bucktown bar plays Christmas tunes from Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen, Mariah Carey and other stars at the 10th annual bash, which owner Mark Domitrovich said

has gotten more popular every year. You'll get entry into a raffle for a guitar and can take advantage of \$3.50 Heineken and a menu of seasonal cocktails. 4 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover.

## Wrecked Resolutions Bar Crawl at Four Shadows Tavern & Grill

2758 N. Ashland Ave.  
773-248-9160

**When:** Wednesday, Jan. 1  
► You could try to recover from your New Year's Eve debauchery by having a bloody mary at brunch. Or you could keep the party going by hopping the Blackout Bus, which runs between Four Shadows, Wheel House, Trinity Bar, Temple Bar, Clover Sports and Leisure and Mahoney's. All the bars are offering \$3 Coors Light, \$4 Fireball whiskey and \$5 select bombs, plus tickets for a raffle at the end of the event. Noon-7 p.m. \$10. Tickets: [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).



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## theater

# HOLIDAY BREAK

## 5 shows for a theater time-out

By Julia Borcherts | FOR REDEYE

Some people can't get enough of the holidays; others are over them the minute they start hearing carols in October. Most of us fall somewhere in the middle: excitement for the season coupled with exhaustion from all its demands. No matter where you stand, an escape into another world—preferably, one with no Christmas trees to remind us of the gifts we still have left to buy—never hurts. So whether you've had it with the holidays or are just looking for change of pace, we've found five comedies, dramas and a musical rom-com to make your spirits bright—without all the holiday hoopla.

JULIA BORCHERTS IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



### 'Elemeno Pea'

Money and status rule—or do they? That's the question posed in this satire by Brooklyn-based playwright Molly Smith Metzler making its Chicago premiere under the direction of the Goodman Theatre's associate producer, Steve Scott. The story centers on two sisters—one who earns six figures as a personal assistant to a spoiled socialite and thinks she's living the dream; the other, a regular gal from Buffalo who lives with their mom and thinks her sister is a sellout.

**Go:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday through Jan. 12 at Redtwist Theatre, 1044 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. **Tickets:** \$25-\$30; \$20-\$25 for students. 773-728-7529; [redtwist.org](http://redtwist.org)

### 'Autobahn'



### 'The Dead Prince'

From The Strange Tree Group's Jeff Award-winning artistic director Emily Schwartz ("The Three Faces of Doctor Crippen") comes this musical rom-com in which a princess discovers to her dismay that the man who's supposed to be her true love has died before she's even met him. But when she discovers a way to steal him back through time, the quest leads her to corpses, bat attacks and the consequences of playing with fate. Lifeline Theatre ensemble member Paul S. Holmquist directs.

**Go:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 22 at The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE) Storefront Theater, 66 E. Randolph St. **Tickets:** \$15. 312-742-8497; [strangetree.org](http://strangetree.org)

### 'Inglourious Bitches'

Bare Knuckle Productions and director Maggie Speer unleash a ferocious pack of ladies—and a few dudes—in this gender- and race-blind adaptation of the Quentin Tarantino flick, "Inglourious Basterds," in which a group of WWII-era Jewish-American soldiers wreak havoc on a mission to destroy Nazi Germany. **Go:** 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 4 p.m. Sunday through Jan. 25 at Bare Knuckle Productions Ravenswood Studio, 4001 N. Ravenswood Ave. #603-C **Tickets:** \$15-\$20. [bareknuckleproductions.org](http://bareknuckleproductions.org)





Ann Sonnevile in  
'The Dead Prince'



## 'Autobahn'

Drive into December with Jeff Award-winning director Andrew Jessop and Awkward Pause Theatre Company's cast of 10 actors, who explore the concepts of relationship and perception through a collection of seven dark one-act plays by Neil LaBute ("In the Company of Men"), all of which take place in the front seat of a car.

**Go:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 29 at The Den Theatre, 1333 N. Milwaukee Ave.

**Tickets:** \$10. 773-398-7028; [awkwardpausetheatre.com](http://awkwardpausetheatre.com)



## 'Blood on the Cat's Neck'

For its 20th season, the company remounts its 1996 production of the experimental vampire comedy by the late German playwright and filmmaker Rainer Werner Fassbinder—directed by Trap Door's artistic director, Beata Pilch—in which a naked female alien studies democracy on Planet Earth through biting (so to speak) encounters with lovers, models, butchers, teachers, soldiers and girls.

**Go:** 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 7 p.m. Sunday through Dec. 28 at Trap Door Theatre, 1655 W. Cortland St. **Tickets:** \$20-\$25. 773-384-0494; [trapdoortheatre.com](http://trapdoortheatre.com)

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# THREE TO PLAY

BY RYAN SMITH | FOR REDEYE

## Peggle 2 Xbox One



Video games are fun, but as anyone who has tried to survive a virtual gun battle, score a winning goal or save the princess can attest, they're often stressful as hell. "Peggle," on the other hand, is gaming's equivalent of a bubble bath with scented candles. Simply shoot pinballs at colored pegs while a smiling unicorn or a chilled-out troll who quotes "Big Lebowski" dialogue look on. Knock out all the orange pegs and Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" or other classical epics ring out to celebrate. "Peggle 2" doesn't stray much from previous versions of the game, but why tinker with Zen-like perfection?



## Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas iPhone/iPad



Just in time to let you zone out while at awkward family Christmas gatherings, Rockstar somehow has managed to squeeze the entirety of "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" into an app playable on your iPhone. The godfather to "Grand Theft Auto V" follows the adventures of troubled Carl Johnson, who gets sucked into the endless gang wars plaguing his old neighborhood of Los Santos, a parody of Los Angeles. It's not ideal to play with finicky touchscreen controls, but considering it's only \$7 and there's literally dozens of hours of gameplay, it's a steal—no pun intended.



## AntiSquad iPhone/iPad



Like the excellent strategy game "XCOM," "AntiSquad" is a turn-based strategy game that asks you to guide a squad of gun-toting specialists on a grid-like battlefield to take down gangs of bad guys. The action itself works well enough, but it's the setting and characters that prove rather offensive. The story pits your team against a South American drug cartel, a serious premise at odds with the cartoonish visuals. It's also discomfiling to shoot down, explode or throw lethal acid at groups of Latinos with your diverse group of racial stereotypes (the sniper, for instance, is a Jamaican fellow who wears oversized headphones and saggy jeans). The casual racism mars what is a solid iOS diversion.

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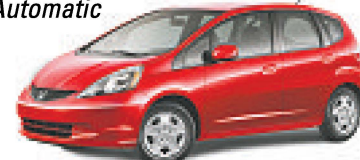
**2014 Honda CR-V LX 4WD**  
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|   |   |   | 4 | 6 |   | 7 |   |   |
| 3 | 6 |   |   | 1 |   |   |   | 2 |
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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TUESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | R | T | S |   | G | I | A | N | T |   | S | A | F | E |
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| U | T | T | E | R |   | M | A | S |   | R | I | F | L | E |
| S | O | O | T |   | G | A | L |   | N | E | A | R | E | R |
| E | R | R |   | S | E | D | A | T | E | S |   | A | D | O |
| R | A | S | C | A | L |   | V | A | T |   | P | I | G | S |
| S | H | O | A | L |   | B | E | T |   | M | E | L | E | E |
|   |   |   | P | A | C | E | R |   | P | E | A |   |   |   |
| S | T | R | I | D | E | S |   | B | U | T | C | H | E | R |
| P | O | E | T |   | C | I | D | E | R |   | H | I | R | E |
| A | R | E | A |   | I | D | E | A | L |   | E | G | G | S |
| T | O | L | L |   | L | E | N | D | S |   | S | H | O | T |

ACROSS

- 1 Supermarket  
6 Not quite closed  
10 Disassemble  
14 \_ closet; place for sheets and towels  
15 Nary a one  
16 Bookish fellow  
17 Build  
18 Brooklyn hoopsters  
19 Gung-ho  
20 \_ of; craving  
22 Sick  
24 Greenish-blue  
25 Obviously  
26 Come into view  
29 Ravi Shankar's instrument  
30 \_ Paulo, Brazil  
31 Entice; lure  
33 Instruct  
37 German's 'one'  
39 Valleys  
41 Tower for storing fodder  
42 Heavenly winged harpist  
44 Staircase piece  
46 Singing couple  
47 Powdered cleanser  
49 Awakened  
51 Handles incorrectly  
54 Small mass; protrusion  
55 Thought the world of  
56 Glen or Neve  
60 'Not on your \_!'; adamant refusal  
61 Letters asking for urgency  
63 Spooky  
64 Work hard  
65 Luau garlands  
66 Gets furious  
67 Remain  
68 Sound; healthy  
69 Thicket

DOWN

- 1 Snow toy  
2 Grow weary  
3 Singles  
4 Repeat aloud from memory  
5 Beg  
6 Make void  
7 DiMaggio and Montana  
8 Tasty tidbit for an aardvark  
9 Outcome  
10 Without warning  
11 At no time  
12 Dentist's tool  
13 In a weird way  
21 Rowed  
23 Tidy  
25 Refers to  
26 Bewildered  
27 Agony  
28 Ping-; table tennis  
29 Divide

- 32 Female horses  
34 Assists  
35 Helpful hint  
36 Parka feature  
38 Tightly  
40 Watery part of the blood  
43 Come in last  
45 Toddler's one-piece garment  
48 Military awards  
50 Cheery

- 51 Thick drinks  
52 Dimwit  
53 Capital of Bulgaria  
54 Memory failure  
56 Abel's brother  
57 Consequently  
58 In \_ of; as a substitute for  
59 In case  
62 Caribbean \_

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 26 | 27 | 28 |    |    |    |    | 29 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 30 |    |    |    | 31 |    | 32 |    |    |    | 33 |    | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 |    |    | 38 |    | 39 |    |    |    | 40 |    | 41 |    |    |    |
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| 67 |    |    |    |    |    | 68 |    |    |    | 69 |    |    |    |    |

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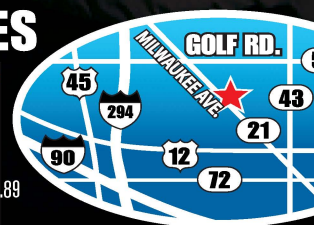
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# whoville



**The Skipper**

**Ty Burrell.** True, the Skipper is meant to be an older gentleman, but we can't pass up the chance to see someone more sprightly in this role.



**Mary Ann**

**Zoey Deschanel.** Assuming that Mary Ann is keeping her wide-eyed farmgirl personality, Zoey has an entire suitcase of fake eyelashes to bring to this part.



**The Professor**

**Jason Segel.** We could have seen him as Gilligan a few years ago, but now the Professor's inability to get off the island despite his alleged intellect fits better with Segel's personality. Plus, he's not afraid to show a little peen.

## WHO SHOULD BE IN THE 'GILLIGAN'S ISLAND' MOVIE?

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Ahoy, friends! The stranded-on-a-tropical-island movie you didn't know you wanted is coming to shore. No, not "Lost." Josh Gad is set to star in and co-write the adaptation of "Gilligan's Island," [thr.com](http://thr.com) reports. Aside from answering questions we've long had about how Ginger and Mary Ann got their hair and makeup so perfect with no electricity, and why Gilligan never changed clothes, this remake of the 1960s series gives us the chance to do a little casting of our own. [DMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM](mailto:DMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM) | [@REDEYEDANA](https://twitter.com/REDEYEDANA)



**Ginger**

**Emma Stone.** please please please. She looks great as a redhead, and would sass the hell out of this role. We also suspect Ginger was the brains of the entire operation.



**Thurston Howell III**

**Idris Elba.** True, we don't know if he's rocking the comic chops, but he'd be great as the straight man opposite Salma Hayek's zany Mrs. Howell.



**Mrs. Howell**

**Salma Hayek.** If we learned anything from her stint on "30 Rock," it's that she can both dress herself to the nines and deliver hilarious lines with poise and clarity.

# castaways





# NYE

## 2014

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red hot



**“ALL THE FLOPPING AROUND, ALL THE EVERYTHING WAS ALL ME.”**

—**Leonardo DiCaprio**, to “Extra,” on, well, some scenes in “The Wolf of Wall Street” that probably were cut to avoid an NC-17 rating. But we’ll keep an eye out regardless.

### Not a quitter

We’ve all hated our jobs, but Bradley Cooper actually asked to be fired from his. The “American Hustle” star talked to GQ about his time on J.J. Abrams’ “Alias,” saying that he asked to be written off the show in the second season. “He probably would’ve fired me, anyway,” Cooper said, adding that for a while he thought about quitting acting entirely. Spoiler alert: Things worked out OK for him.

### Here we are now, entertain us

Well, this should come as no surprise: Nirvana was selected to join the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in their very first year of eligibility. Kiss, Hall and Oates, Peter Dinklage, Cat Stevens and Linda Ronstadt also will be inducted into the Hall on April 10, **rollingstone.com** reports. That’s going to be quite a party.

### The girl with ... wait, who?

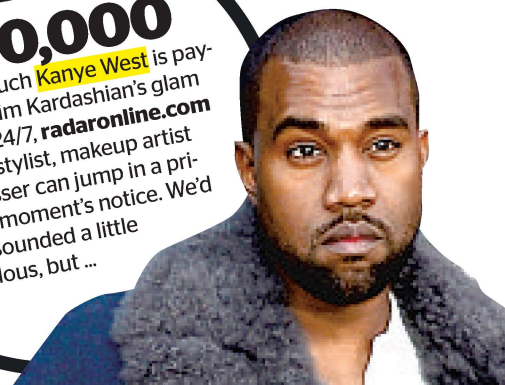
Stieg Larsson may be rolling over in his grave right about now. The Swedish publisher of his “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo” book series has contracted a new author to write a sequel to the trilogy, **usatoday.com** reports. The book, set for a 2015 release, will contain no material from Larsson’s unfinished manuscript for a fourth installment. Did someone say “dolla dolla bills, y’all”?

### Get thee to a laundromat!

Upstairs on “Downton Abbey,” it’s all tuxedos and ball gowns, but downstairs? It’s a much stinkier story. Sophie McShera, who plays kitchen assistant Daisy, told the Daily Mail that her costume has never been washed. “They have these weird patches, which are sewn into the armpits and which they wash separately,” she said. My, how authentic.

**THE DIGIT  
\$250,000**

That’s how much **Kanye West** is paying to have Kim Kardashian’s glam squad on call 24/7, **radaronline.com** reports. Her stylist, makeup artist and hairdresser can jump in a private jet at a moment’s notice. We’d say this sounded a little ridiculous, but ...



**THEY SAID YES!**

One fancy proposal, coming right up! Kelly Rowland was set to reveal her big fat engagement ring Wednesday on “The Queen Latifah Show,” **online.com** reports, after boyfriend Tim Witherspoon proposed to her via Skype. “I was like, ‘I got my best friend to ride through life with,’” she said. And in other musical proposals, Justin Timberlake paused his Louisville concert Sunday to let a man propose to his girlfriend onstage. Fortunately, she said yes in front of the entire screaming arena.



**Kelly Rowland**  
GETTY IMAGES  
PHOTOS

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